

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY,
INDIANA HELD A MEETING IN THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2006.**

The meeting of the **New Albany City Council** was called to order by President Jeff Gahan at 7:30 p.m. The meeting opened with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Price, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Kochert, Mrs. Crump, Mr. Blevins, Mr. Messer, Mr. Seabrook, and President Jeff Gahan.

OTHERS: City Attorney Shane Gibson and City Clerk Marcey Wisman.

ALSO: John Rosenbarger, Adam Dickey, Scott Wood, Planning and Zoning, Brian Dixon, EMC, Paul Wheatley, Economic Development Director, and Mayor James E. Garner, Sr.

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Price moved to approve the minutes of September 21, Mr. Crump second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Coffey made a motion to amend the agenda to move the CF-1's forward, Mr. Seabrook second, all voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

Discount Labels, Compliance with Statement
of Benefits, Referencing R-94-38 and R-00-31

Mr. Seabrook moved to approve, Mrs. Crump second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

Josh Biven, Muir Field Subdivision, addressed the ambulance being pulled out of the Grantline fire house. His wife had an emergency that was covered by this squad and they were very quick and everything worked out. He talked with someone at Yellow Ambulance and he does not believe this will be the case with them. He does not want a service taken away that could hurt his family.

Vicky Habermel, 2213 Beeler Street, gave a prepared statement in support of keeping both city ambulances running.

Daniel Downs, 2219 Fairmont, spoke on Bill A-06-13 and stated that taking one of the ambulances out of service is a mistake. He stated that the tax payers are paying for this service. He discussed the fact that the ambulance workers are also firefighters and we are getting two things for the price of one. He said that the shortage of firefighters is what is causing the overtime and that the city needs to hire new firefighters.

Brian Gadd, Local 410 President, stated that there are a lot of rumors that need to be cleared up. He stated that the council needs to get with the Mayor and work out the hiring ordinance so that we can hire more firefighters and perhaps some of those would be willing to work on the ambulance to replace those who no longer want to work the ambulance.

Patti Byerly, City Employee, read a prepared letter in favor of the non-union employees receiving longevity which is on file with the City Clerk's office.

COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:

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All public meetings are taped and can be reviewed in the City Clerk's Office.

Chief Toran thanked Mr. Price for coming by the fire house to go over the figures with him. He stated that if anyone else is interested in coming into the firehouse to go over things they are more than welcome.

Mr. Coffey stated over the weekend there was a tremendous amount of rain and there was several neighborhoods damaged and he is sending a letter to the Governor asking for assistance. He asked the Clerk to read the letter and invited the other council members to sign as well.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the flooded areas around the city during the rain event.

Mr. Price brought up the fact that the 15th street railroad track dips 8 inches when the train passes over and if it is not repaired could eventually cause a horrible catastrophe.

Mr. Kochert stated that he would also like to do a monthly report from the storm water department and the ambulance service so we can see where money is coming in and going out.

Mr. Seabrook stated that he agreed with what everyone has to say about the flooding, but he stated that with 6 -8 inches of rain there are some problems that could not have been prevented.

Mr. Blevins reported on the work that the street department workers did the night of the rain event. He also explained that the drainage department only has 2 employees and they are doing the best they can to cover all of the drainage problems in the city by themselves.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mayor Garner stated that they have been working with EMA to receive aid for the damage that occurred during the rain event. He also discussed the issue of the ambulance service and explained that it will not be outside of the city it will still be under the fire department. He asked that A-06-12 be approved because this will help the lowest paid employees and they deserve this incentive.

Mr. Price asked if we had 82 fire fighters in the fire department if it would cut down on overtime.

Mayor Garner stated that it would cut it down some but not as much as they would like and it wouldn't help with the ambulance service.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the ambulance service and hiring practices for EMTI's

Mr. Schmidt asked if the city is going to get new lids for the garbage cans.

Mayor Garner stated that the lids cost \$30.00 and they would not be purchasing more. He explained that residents could purchase new cans at Home Depot.

Mr. Blevins stated that Southern Indiana Waste also has cans that can be purchased.

APPOINTMENTS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

READING

R-06-34 Transfer of Funds

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Mr. Price introduced R-06-34 and motioned for the reading by title only, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor by show of hands.

R-06-35 Transfer of Funds

Mr. Schmidt introduced R-06-35 and motioned for the reading by title only, Mr. Price second,

Mr. Kochert asked if the money is taken out of Dental insurance won't that make the claims high and effect our rates.

Mrs. Garry stated that this will not affect our rate.

all voted in favor by show of hands.

A-06-13 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. A-06-46
Setting Salaries for Non-Bargaining Unit Employees
Of the City of New Albany for 2006

Mrs. Crump moved to table A-06-13 and asked that a work session be scheduled in order to work through the members concerns and perhaps find a way to keep these jobs for fire fighters.

A-06-12 An Ordinance Setting Longevity for Non-Union
Employees of the City of New Albany, Indiana

Mr. Coffey introduced A-06-12 and motioned for the second reading by title only, Mr. Price second,

There was a lengthy discussion regarding putting this in a committee and working through the issues that members have with the ordinance. It was decided to discuss this issue during a work session along with A-06-13.

all voted in favor for the second reading.

Mr. Gahan asked Mr. Rosenbarger if he would be prepared to discuss annexation at the next work session.

Mr. Rosenbarger stated that he would be available in the next two weeks.

It was decided that a work session would be held next Tuesday, October 10 at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business before the council, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Jeff Gahan, President
Common Council, City of New Albany

ATTEST: _____
Marcey Wisman, City Clerk